

**Aviation Safety Investigation Report
198502511**

Morane Saulnier Rallye MS 880B

24 January 1985

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NOTE: All air safety occurrences reported to the ATSB are categorised and recorded. For a detailed explanation on Category definitions please refer to the ATSB website at www.atsb.gov.au.

Occurrence Number: 198502511
Location: Wellington NSW
Date: 24 January 1985
Highest Injury Level: Nil
Injuries:

Occurrence Type: Accident

Time: 947

	Fatal	Serious	Minor	None
Crew	0	0	1	1
Ground	0	0	0	-
Passenger	0	0	0	2
Total	0	0	0	3

Aircraft Details: Morane Saulnier Rallye MS
880B
Registration: VH-UQG
Serial Number:
Operation Type: Private Business
Damage Level: Substantial
Departure Point: Wellington NSW
Departure Time: 0947
Destination: Mudgee NSW

Approved for Release: 1st August, 1985

Circumstances:

The pilot had diverted to Wellington because of thick bushfire smoke on his intended track. Take-off was initiated after the smoke had cleared, however shortly after becoming airborne the aircraft sank towards the ground. The pilot subsequently advised that although the engine was developing full power he was unable to prevent the sink from continuing until the aircraft struck the ground heavily, 210 metres beyond the boundary fence of the strip. The 05 strip was used for take-off into a north-easterly breeze. However a witness about 2 kilometres away, along the take-off path, reported that the wind there was from the south. It is likely that at about 200 feet agl the aircraft experienced a head to tail wind change. The pilot attempted to regain airspeed by lowering the nose but the low altitude and rising ground ahead prevented sufficient airspeed to be recovered.